published in 1599. It could well have been this book that aroused the interest of King James I, who made a determined, but not entirely successful attempt to establish a silk industry in Great Britain. The failure of this venture was perhaps more due to our weather than to any other cause, but its legacy still exists in the presence of ancient mulberry trees, usually in the grounds of, or on the former site of, large country houses and estates.

If the honour of being the first entomological book belongs to *Silkeworms,* then surely the second – in spite of its title *Serpents* – must belong to that book in view of its extensive entomological content and the date of the first edition which was 1608.– BRIAN O.C. GARDINER, 2 Highfield Avenue, Cambridge CB4 2AL.

***Thera juniperata* Linn. (Lep.: Geometridae) in west Gloucester in Autumn 1994**

Between 29th October and 5th November 1994, I recorded 12 specimens of *T. juniperata* Linn. at light whilst carrying out landscaping work for a customer at Whiteshill, near Stroud, Gloucestershire. These were noted alongside six *Lithophane leautieri* Boisd. and numerous *Colotois pennaria* Linn.

The Juniper Carpet is extremely local in Gloucestershire. Newton, J. (*Macrolepidoptera of Gloucestershire, Proceedings Cotswolds naturalists' field club.* 1982) states that "The species has not been recorded in the county since Richardson, Nailsworth 25.ix.69."

The occurrence of this species originated from an introduced juniper bush brought from Oxford during March 1994. According to its owner the bush was planted in his garden at Whiteshill but failed to establish itself, died, and was thrown out. It appears evident that the bush contained ova or more probable larvae, which produced the imagines I recorded.

Juniper is very scarce in this part of Gloucestershire, being restricted to a few upland areas of the county. There is no presence of the plant around the Stroud area which will undoubtedly lead to this brood being short lived.

In conclusion I will add that the recent mild weather has produced very large numbers of *Autographa gamma* L. and on 28th October two *Nomophila noctuella* D.&S.– M.N. MCCREA, 223 Mathews Way, Paganhill, Stroud, Gloucestershire GL5 4DP.

Invertebrates of Wales by Adrian Fowles. 157pp. Numerous colour and monochrome illustrations. A4 Boards. Joint Nature Conservation Committee and the Countryside Commission for Wales. 1994. Price £24.50.

Although dealing with invertebrates in general, much of the coverage relates to insects. Wales is divided into three regions: North, Dyfed and mid-Wales and the south. This strange division is adopted because it corresponds with the former administrative regions of the now defunct NCC! Within each region there is a general introduction followed by a habitat-by-habitat coverage, typically coastlands, woodlands, lowland grasslands, lowland heathlands, open water and its margins, lowland peatlands and uplands.